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UCKFIELD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1947

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

John Petrie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

*A. J. Williams, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

District Sanitary Inspectors:

*R. A. Williams, M.R.San. I., M.S.I.A.
*W. L. Roberts, M.S.I.A.
*R. H. Street, A.R.San. I., M.S.I.A.

Rodent Operators:

T. Parker.
W. B. Baker.

Clerks:

L. A. Weatherley.
Miss R. Thorpe.

Immunisation and Vaccination Clerk (East Sussex County Council):

G. Hopwood.

*Certificated Inspector of Meat and other Food.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE UCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1947. The report is prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular No. 170/47 dated 31st December, 1947.

The Crude Death Rate is 13.56, as compared with 12.93 for the previous year and with 12.00 for England and Wales.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is 40.35, which compares with 41.00 for the country as a whole.

The Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme remains as described in the Report for 1945, and continues to make satisfactory progress.

Of the 2,162 children in the one to five years age group, 2,072 have been immunised, a ratio of 95.8 per cent. In the five to fifteen years age group, 5,147 children from a total of 5,254 on the register have been immunised, making 97.9 per cent.

Since July, the clerk engaged full-time in the immunisation scheme has been able to take over the same work in East Grinstead, in preparation for the transfer of responsibility to the East Sussex County Council in July, 1948.

No case of diphtheria was notified during the year.

The incidence of measles has increased, 536 cases being notified. This figure does not represent the total number occurring in the district, head teachers' returns showing that a much larger number of children have been absent from school on this account. The epidemic has continued in 1948, the disease being mild in character, and in many cases parents have not thought medical attention to be required.

Medical practitioners report that complications are unusual and that there are few cases of secondary infection.

Only three cases, one an adult, were admitted to hospital. There were no deaths.

During the outbreak of acute anterior poliomyelitis in the country, seventeen cases and one case of polioencephalitis were notified in this district. From brief details of the cases given in the report it will be seen that in the majority no source of infection could be traced.

Medical practitioners were kept informed of the progress of the epidemic, in this district and in the country as a whole, and a considerable number of suspected cases were seen in consultation.

A leaflet giving advice to parents was issued through the Citizens' Advice Bureaux, District Nurses and chemists.

There were no cases of typhoid, and no major outbreaks of infectious disease.

Only twelve patients were treated for scabies at East Grinstead cleansing station during the year. Seven cases were treated in their own homes by a doctor and one by a District Nurse.

Insulin was supplied free to four patients in necessitous circumstances, in accordance with the terms of Ministry of Health Circular No. 2734 dated 4th January, 1943. The total cost amounted to £22 16s. 0d.

The Rural Housing Survey is proceeding and during the year 335 dwelling houses were inspected, making a total since the commencement of the survey in August, 1944, of 4,470.

The survey will be completed towards the end of 1948.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN PETRIE

(Medical Officer of Health).

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT, 1947.

Area	112,099 acres
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	40,190
Density of population per acre	.36
Number of inhabited dwellings	12,214
Rateable Value	£321,045
Sum represented by one penny rate	£1,217
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.27
Death Rate per 1,000 population	13.56
Infantile Mortality Rate	40.35

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Legitimate	327	318	645
Illegitimate	28	21	49
			694

Deaths.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
	263	282	545

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE UCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.

Cause of Death.	*Males.*	*Females.*	*Total.*
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers...	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever...	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	7	7	14
Other forms of tuberculosis	3	1	4
Syphilitic diseases	1	—	1
Influenza	2	4	6
Measles	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ...	1	—	1
Acute infantile encephalitis	—	—	—
Cancer	41	45	86
Diabetes	2	1	3
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	34	51	85
Heart diseases	65	92	157
Other diseases of circulatory system	13	8	21
Bronchitis	12	7	19
Pneumonia	9	6	15
Other respiratory diseases	2	5	7
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	5	2	7
Diarrhœa under 2 years	1	3	4
Appendicitis	—	—	—
Other digestive diseases	4	3	7
Nephritis	14	9	23
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	—	1	1
Other maternal causes	—	1	1
Premature birth	4	1	5
Congenital deformity	10	5	15
Suicide	3	1	4
Road traffic accidents	2	1	3
Other violent causes	8	7	15
All other causes	20	21	41
	263	282	545

BIRTH RATE, CIVILIAN DEATH RATE AND ANNUAL ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1947.

	Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population.		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population.								Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under 1 year.
England and Wales ...	20.5	0.50	12.0	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.09	0.00	0.01	5.8	41
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	23.3	0.62	13.0	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.09	0.00	0.02	8.0	47
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	22.2	0.54	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.08	0.00	0.02	3.7	36
London	22.7	0.49	12.8	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.08	—	0.01	4.8	37
Uckfield Rural District...	17.27	0.50	13.56	—	—	—	—	0.15	—	—	6.02	40.35

	Puerperal Sepsis.	Other Maternal Causes.
Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales—per 1,000 Total Births ...	0.16	0.85
Maternal Mortality Rates for Uckfield Rural District	1.40	1.40

(A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths).

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year :—

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ...	25	10	—
Erysipelas	1	1	—
Pneumonia	4	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	6	4	—
Dysentery	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	17	15	—
Polioencephalitis ...	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Measles	536	1	—
Measles and Pneumonia	2	2	—
Whooping Cough ...	106	5	—
Food Poisoning ...	2	—	—
Scabies	1	—	—
Undulant Fever ...	1	—	—
Totals ...	704	39	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1947.

	England and Wales.	126 C.B.'s and great towns including London.	148 Smaller towns Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adm. County.	Uckfield Rural District.
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—				
NOTIFICATIONS :—					
Typhoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.37	1.54	1.37	1.31	0.62
Whooping Cough ...	2.22	2.41	2.02	2.80	2.64
Diphtheria	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.00
Erysipelas	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.22	0.02
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Measles	9.41	9.13	9.58	5.29	13.39
Pneumonia	0.79	0.89	0.68	0.64	0.15

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS.

	under one year.	1 year.	2 years.	3 years.	4 years.	5—10 years.	10—15 years.	15—20 years.	20—35 years.	35—45 years.	45—65 years.	Over 65 years.	Age Unknown.	TOTALS.
Scarlet Fever	1	—	3	2	2	10	3	2	1	1	—	—	—	25
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	—	—	6
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	5	5	2	1	—	—	17
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	11	26	37	46	42	277	66	7	12	6	3	2	1	536
Whooping Cough ...	7	11	13	17	10	35	7	—	3	1	1	—	1	106
Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles & Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Scabies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Undulant Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTALS	21	37	54	66	54	323	79	16	26	17	7	2	2	704

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE VARIOUS PARISHES.

	Scarlet Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Dysentery.	Poliomyelitis.	Polioencephalitis.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Measles.	Measles & Pneumonia.	Whooping Cough.	Food Poisoning.	Scabies.	Undulant Fever.	Totals.
Buxted... ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	1	—	—	—	—	47
Crowborough...	2	—	1	5	1	5	—	—	151	—	17	—	1	—	183
Danehill ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	3	2	—	—	9
Fletching ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
Forest Row ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	95	—	9	—	—	—	106
Framfield ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	15	1	5	—	—	—	22
Frant	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	4
Hadlow Down	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Hartfield ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	10	—	20	—	—	—	32
Isfield ...	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	9
Little Horsted	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	10	—	2	—	—	—	13
Maresfield ...	2	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	26	—	5	—	—	—	37
Mayfield ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	—	4	—	—	—	35
Rotherfield ...	4	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	25	—	9	—	—	1	42
Uckfield ...	11	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	21	—	7	—	—	—	40
Wadhurst ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	80	—	4	—	—	—	85
Withyham ...	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	20	—	—	—	28
Totals ...	25	1	4	6	1	17	1	1	536	2	106	2	1	1	704

Note :—Two of the cases in the parish of Maresfield were soldiers from the Camp Reception Station at Maresfield.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1947.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Resp.		Respiratory.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*	*M.*	*F.*
0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
5	1	1	2	1	–	–	–	1
15	1	2	1	1	–	1	–	–
25	–	5	1	1	2	3	1	–
35	3	1	–	1	–	–	–	–
45	1	–	–	–	2	1	–	–
55	4	1	1	1	2	1	1	–
65 years and upwards ...	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	–
Totals	10	10	5	5	7	7	3	1

POLIOMYELITIS.

No. of Cases of Poliomyelitis	17 (1 Died)
(Includes 1 case notified poliomyelitis but actually fibrositis).	
No. of Cases of Polioencephalitis	1 (1 Died)
Admitted to Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital	11
Admitted to Kent and Sussex Hospital	3
Admitted to Brighton Sanatorium	2
Not admitted to Hospital	2

1. Female, aged 26 years.
Steel Cross.

Notified	30. 1. 47
Admitted	30. 1. 47
Discharged ...	28. 2. 47

Source unknown. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Very slight weakness right arm. Continued massage at home.

2. Female, aged 17 years.
Crowborough.

Notified	17. 2. 47
Admitted	8. 2. 47
Discharged ...	Not known

Joined domestic staff of War Memorial Hospital, Crowborough, 4.2.47. Onset 5.2.47. Home in Tunbridge Wells. Admitted Kent and Sussex Hospital. Weakness of upper and lower limbs. Continued treatment as out-patient.

3. Male, aged 10 years.
Hartfield.

Notified	1. 4. 47
Admitted	1. 4. 47
Transferred ...	22. 5. 47

Source unknown. Admitted Kent and Sussex Hospital. Transferred to Treloar Hospital, Alton, and still a patient there.

4. Female, aged 26 years.
Crowborough.

Notified	2. 8. 47
Admitted	2. 8. 47
Discharged ...	9. 8. 47

Became ill on holiday and returned home. Admitted Kent and Sussex Hospital. Partial paralysis right leg. Continued treatment at home.

5. Female, aged 16 years.
Jarvis Brook.

Notified	6. 8. 47
Admitted	6. 8. 47
Discharged ...	1. 9. 47

Source unknown. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Slight weakness in back. Referred to orthopædic clinic.

6. Male, aged 15 years.
Withyham.

Notified	14. 8. 47
Admitted	11. 8. 47
Discharged ...	1. 9. 47

Contact with previous case at school in Tunbridge Wells. Parents warned of contact and isolated patient before onset. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Recovered.

7. Female, aged 37 years.
Mark Cross.

Notified	4.	9. 47
Admitted	29.	8. 47
Discharged ...	19.	9. 47

Source unknown. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Slight weakness back and right leg. Continued massage at home. Three children and breast-fed infant remained well.

8. Female, aged 18 years.
Withyham.

Notified	8.	9. 47
Admitted	8.	9. 47
Discharged ...	30.	9. 47

Source unknown. No contact with Case No. 6. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Recovered.

9. Male, aged 12 years.
Isfield.

Notified	13.	9. 47
Admitted	12.	9. 47
Discharged ...	15.	10. 47

Source unknown. Attended Uckfield Parochial School. Birthday party held four days before onset, attended by nine children, including two sons of Case No. 13. These two children had recently had sore throat, but were then quite well; the mother had headache and tonsillitis when visited, but no other signs until six weeks later. Remaining party children were kept under observation and remained well. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Very slight weakness of back and legs. Continued massage at home.

10. Male, aged 2 years.
Uckfield.

Notified	17.	9. 47
Admitted	17.	9. 47
Transferred ...	13.	10. 47

Sister attended R.C. School, Uckfield. Possible contact with children of Case No. 13. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Paralysis of back and right leg. Transferred to Chailey Heritage Hospital.

11. Male, aged 29 years.
Forest Row.

Notified	28.	9. 47
Admitted	29.	9. 47
Transferred ...	6.	12. 47

Source unknown. Brought home by ambulance on 28.9.47 from West Norwood, where he had spent previous two weeks. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Respiratory paralysis and paralysis of limbs. Transferred to L.C.C. Hospital, Hammersmith. Developed broncho-pneumonia and died 26.3.48.

12. Male, aged 20 years.
Maresfield.

Notified	29.	9. 47
Admitted	28.	9. 47
Discharged ...	21.	10. 47

Soldier. Source unknown. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Recovered.

13. Female, aged 41 years. Isfield.

Notified	... ...	28. 10. 47
Admitted	... ...	28. 10. 47
Discharged	...	8. 12. 47

See note on Case 9. Admitted Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Weakness of legs. Continued massage at home.

14. Male, aged 3½ years. Isfield.

Notified	... ...	28. 10. 47
Admitted	... ...	28. 10. 47
Died	... ...	6. 11. 47

Son of Case No. 13. Admitted to Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital. Polioencephalitis. Died.

15. Male, aged 19 years. Maresfield.

Notified	... ...	1. 11. 47
Admitted	... ...	31. 10. 47
Discharged	...	20. 11. 47

Soldier. Contacts kept under observation by unit M.O. All well. Admitted to Brighton Sanatorium. Recovered.

16. Male, aged 46 years. Framfield. Notified 13. 11. 47

Source unknown. Week-end visitor. Not admitted to hospital. Recovered.

17. Male, aged 6 years. Little Horsted. Notified 15. 11. 47

Source unknown. Not admitted to hospital. Treated at home; recovery complete.

18. Female, aged 23 years. Jarvis Brook.

Notified	... ...	16. 11. 47
Admitted	.. ...	15. 11. 47
Discharged	...	24. 11. 47

Admitted Brighton Sanatorium. Finally diagnosed as fibrositis, not poliomyelitis.

MID-SUSSEX ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Admissions, 1947.

Disease.	East Grinstead Urban.	Uckfield Rural.	Other Districts.	Totals.
Scarlet Fever	4	10	12	26
Diphtheria	–	–	10	10
Observation Diphtheria ...	4	1	5	10
Erysipelas	1	1	2	4
Measles	9	1	10	20
Measles & Mastoidectomy	–	–	1	1
Measles & Pneumonia ...	2	2	1	5
Measles, Pneumonia and Encephalitis	–	–	1	1
German Measles	1	–	1	2
Streptococcal Rash ...	–	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	1	5	–	6
Chickenpox	–	1	–	1
Observation Chickenpox ...	–	–	1	1
Observation Poliomyelitis	–	1	3	4
Poliomyelitis	1	10	18	29
Pleurodynia	–	–	1	1
Inguinal abscess	–	–	1	1
Pemphigus	1	–	–	1
Observation Typhoid Fever	–	1	–	1
Chickenpox & Pneumonia	–	–	1	1
Tetanus	–	–	1	1
Polioencephalitis	–	1	–	1
Totals	24	35	70	129

The case of "observation" Diphtheria in the Uckfield Rural District was later diagnosed as Tonsillitis; that of Typhoid Fever as abdominal Tuberculosis; and that of Poliomyelitis as Mumps.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The following tables show the position with regard to immunisation at 31st December, 1947 :—

One to five years of age in areas :—

District.	*No. of Children.*	*Number Immunised.*	*Percentage Immunised.*
Cousley Wood	18	18	100
Danehill	71	71	100
Eridge	15	15	100
Fairwarp	30	30	100
Five Ashes	26	26	100
Fletching	27	27	100
Frant	51	51	100
Hadlow Down	23	23	100
High Hurstwood	23	23	100
Mark Cross	20	20	100
Snape Nursery	24	24	100
Forest Row	151	150	99
Hartfield	85	83	98
Withyham	43	42	98
Maresfield	41	40	97
Uckfield	244	236	97
Wadhurst	166	162	97
Piltdown	29	28	96
Mayfield	113	107	95
Nutley	59	56	95
Rotherfield	99	93	94
Buxted	55	51	93
Crowborough	447	414	93
Blackham	12	11	92
Groombridge	50	46	92
Little Horsted	12	11	92
Blackboys	39	35	90
Isfield	31	28	90
Framfield	51	44	86
	2,055	1,965	95.6
Being immunised at Doctor's Surgeries	107	107	100
	2,162	2,072	95.8

Five to Fifteen years of age, attending Elementary Schools :—

School	*No. of Children*	*Number Immunised*	*Percentage Immunised*
Cousley Wood	37	37	100
Danehill	105	105	100
Eridge	78	78	100
Fairwarp	51	51	100
Hammerwood	24	24	100
High Hurstwood	28	28	100
Maresfield	66	66	100
Mark Cross	27	27	100
Nutley	125	125	100
Uckfield R.C.	175	175	100
Wadhurst R.C.	19	19	100
Withyham	30	30	100
Buxted	126	125	99
Whitehill	402	399	99
Forest Row	211	209	99
Hartfield	96	95	99
Rotherfield	143	142	99
Sir Henry Fermor	271	265	98
Fletching	72	71	98
Uckfield Parochial	292	286	98
Blackham	31	30	97
Five Ashes	35	34	97
Framfield	73	71	97
Groombridge	157	152	97
Hadlow Down	35	34	97
Herons Ghyll R.C.	29	28	96
Little Horsted	26	25	96
Mayfield	190	182	96
St. John's	83	79	95
Isfield	40	38	95
Jarvis Brook	38	36	95
Wadhurst C.E.	288	274	95
Frant	69	65	94
Blackboys	61	56	92
	3,533	3,461	98
Attending Private School ...	807	785	97
County Schools	220	220	100
Schools outside the Uckfield Rural District	197	193	98
Schools unknown	497	488	98
	5,254	5,147	97·9

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES AND ANTE-NATAL CLINICS IN THE UCKFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.

Name of Centre	*When held*
CROWBOROUGH—	
Parker Memorial Hall	2nd and 4th Tuesday in the month
JARVIS BROOK—	
Memorial Hall	2nd and 4th Tuesday ,,
DANEHILL—	
Chelworth, Chelwood Gate ...	2nd Tuesday ,,
CHELWOOD GATE—	
Chelworth, Chelwood Gate ...	2nd and 4th Wednesday ,,
FAIRWARP AND MARESFIELD—	
Village Hall, Fairwarp	1st Wednesday ,,
FIVE ASHES—	
The Institute	4th Friday ,,
FOREST ROW—	
Village Hall	1st and 3rd Thursday ,,
FRAMFIELD—	
Church Hall	2nd Thursday ,,
FRANT—	
Village Hall	2nd and 4th Friday ,,
GROOMBRIDGE—	
Oakdene	3rd Monday ,,
HARTFIELD AND WITHYHAM—	
British Legion Hall, Hartfield ...	1st Friday ,,
MAYFIELD—	
Congregational Church Hall ...	1st and 3rd Friday ,,
NUTLEY—	
Forest Dene	4th Friday ,,
UCKFIELD—	
County Clinic	1st Thursday ,,
WADHURST—	
The Institute, High Street	1st and 3rd Tuesday ,,

SANITARY SUPERVISION.

No. of inspections made under the Housing and Public Health Acts ...	2,792
No. of premises other than houses visited under the Public Health Acts	120
Inspections made of cowsheds, dairies and milk shops	626
Visits to bakehouses	51
,, ,, factories (with power 50, without power 38)	88
,, ,, butchers' shops and slaughterhouses	290
,, ,, knackers' yards	2
,, ,, fish frying premises	7
,, ,, food premises	150
,, ,, ice-cream premises	38
,, ,, shops (under Shops Act)	21
,, ,, hop-pickers' lodgings	18
,, in connection with tents, vans and sheds...	55
,, ,, ,, ,, infectious diseases	112
,, ,, ,, ,, water supplies	514
,, ,, ,, ,, eradication of bed bugs and other vermin ...	13
,, ,, ,, ,, rats and mice destruction	3,148
,, ,, ,, ,, sanitary accommodation at schools	22
,, ,, ,, ,, public conveniences, halls, etc.	7
,, ,, ,, ,, drainage surveys	47
,, ,, ,, ,, requisitioning	151
Miscellaneous visits	260
Interviews	204
No. of drain tests carried out	130
,, ,, water samples taken	81
,, ,, milk samples taken	267
,, ,, ice-cream samples taken	12
,, ,, rooms disinfected	31
,, ,, rooms disinfested	19
,, ,, preliminary notices served	278
,, ,, ,, ,, complied with	239
,, ,, statutory notices served	35
,, ,, ,, ,, complied with	19

BYE-LAWS RELATING TO HOP-PICKERS.

Eighteen visits were made to hop-pickers' lodgings during the season. Ninety-eight lodgings were provided on eight farms where imported pickers were employed, and the occupants comprised eighty-two families, including eighteen males, one hundred and twenty-seven females and ninety-eight children.

Five preliminary notices relating to sanitary defects were served. All were complied with during the season.

The following improvements were made to lodgings as the result of earlier representations :—

Huts cleaned and limewashed	98
No. of compartments provided with new walls and ceilings	16
No. of new field kitchens provided	3
No. of cases of overcrowding found and abated	1
No. of new huts erected	13

FACTORIES.

Eighty-eight visits were made to factories during the year. Of these, fifty were factories in which mechanical power was used.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	No. on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(*i*) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	40	38	5	–
(*ii*) Factories not included in (*i*) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	125	50	3	–
(*iii*) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	–	–	–	–
Total	165	88	8	–

Cases in which defects were found.

	Number of Cases in which Defects were Found.				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred. To H.M. Inspector.	Referred. By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness ...	7	7	–	3	–
Overcrowding	–	–	–	–	–
Unreasonable temperature	–	–	–	–	–
Inadequate ventilation ...	–	–	–	–	–
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	–	–	–
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(*a*) insufficient	2	1	–	1	–
(*b*) unsuitable or defective	4	4	–	4	–
(*c*) not separate for sexes	–	–	–	–	–
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	–	–	–	–	–
Totals	14	13	–	8	–

ICE-CREAM.

Registration of Premises.

Number of registered premises:—

For manufacture	5
For storage and sale	24

Number of premises registered during the year:—

For storage and sale	1

Sampling.

Number of samples taken during the year	12
Passed Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests	5
Passed Methylene Blue Test only	1
Passed Coliform Test only	1
Failed both tests	5

Of the five samples which failed both tests, three were taken from itinerant vendors, the ice cream having been manufactured outside the district. The local authorities concerned were informed of the results of the analyses and the names of the manufacturers.

In the remaining two cases the vendors were advised on the improvements required, and further samples taken later in the year proved satisfactory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The inspection of meat, at the Ministry of Food's centralised slaughterhouse situated at Uckfield, was carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors. During the year, 4 tons 10 cwts. 0 qrs. 16 lbs. of unsound food was surrendered.

This entailed two hundred and ninety visits to butchers' shops and slaughterhouses.

Carcases inspected & condemned.	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number slaughtered	396	176	1049	1053	137
Number inspected	396	176	1049	1053	137
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned ...	1	–	1	1	–
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	102	48	1	99	7
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned ...	4	3	1	–	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	38	53	3	–	4

Of the 1,049 calves killed, 141 were heifer calves.

Foodstuffs Voluntarily Surrendered.

88	lbs.	English Beef	Decomposed
879	lbs.	Imported Beef	Bone Taint
11½	lbs.	Imported Beef	Bruised
16½	lbs.	Imported Lamb	do.
7	lbs.	Imported Mutton	Bone Taint
15	lbs.	Bacon	Decomposed
364	lbs.	Corned Beef	Decomposed
6	tins	Corned Beef	and/or blown
66	tins	Corned Mutton	Blown
14	tins	Sausages	do.
61	tins	Meat	do.
5	tins	Stew	do.
87½	stone	Fish	Decomposed
70	tins	Fish	Blown
2½	gross	Fish Cakes	Mouldy
50		Eggs	Decomposed
255	tins	Milk	Blown
2	tins	Spaghetti	do.
40	tins	Mincemeat	do.
17	tins	Fruit	do.
68	tins	Vegetables	do.
3	tins	Soup	do.
24	tins	Preserves	do.
7½	lbs.	Tea	Mouldy
1	lb.	Cocoa	do.
4	lbs.	Rolled Oats	do.
7	pkts.	Cereals	do.
12	jars	Pickles	Decomposed
9	glns.	Piccalilli	Fermented
168	lbs.	Sugar	Contaminated
5	pkts.	Cheese	Maggotty
9	pkts.	Bun Flour	Infested with mite
8	pkts.	Barley Flakes	do.

Foodstuffs Seized.

4¾	lbs.	Spaghetti	Contaminated by mice droppings

DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE.

The following are particulars of the work carried out by the Council's Rodent Officers during the year :—

Rats.	No. of complaints received	132
	No. of premises infested	121
	No. of infestations found as a result of routine enquiries	322
Mice.	No. of complaints received	17
	No. of premises infested	17
	No. of infestations found as a result of routine enquiries	54
Total No. of visits		3,148
Rats.	No. of premises disinfested	397
Mice.	No. of premises disinfested	78
Rats.	Estimated Kill	3,706

Private Dwellings — Special Scheme.

Dwelling houses inspected	2,560
Infestations found: —	
Rats	376
Mice	34
Shops and other business premises inspected	424
Infestations found: —	
Rats	88
Mice	11

Refuse Tips and Sewage Works.

All refuse tips and sewage works within the district are treated regularly and are maintained free from rats.

FLY INFESTATIONS.

Throughout the past winter householders from all over the district have complained that flies in enormous numbers were infesting attics and roof spaces ; and on enquiry it was found that the infestations were occurring over Sussex and adjoining counties.

The flies were identified as of the species *Musca Autumnalis*. This fly, which used to be known as the Raven Fly, lays eggs in tiny stalks over patches of dung in the fields. The larvae feed on the dung and eventually pupate in the soil. In the summer months the adults usually associate with cattle and horses in the fields, feeding on secretions and sweat. In the autumn they are one of a group of flies which tend to hibernate in the cooler parts of human dwelling places. The choice of a place of shelter must depend on site and aspect, but why one house should be selected from its immediate neighbours is unknown and must be regarded as a peculiar misfortune. In winter the flies are torpid and many remain undiscovered ; but warmth, either natural or artificial, brings them to life and great concern may be caused by the very loud buzzing in the roof space and later by clouds of flies swarming over the tiles, gardens and outbuildings, or hovering over the house.

Most fortunately, the flies have been found not to molest human beings or to enter inhabited parts of the house. Food is not contaminated and there is no menace to public health. But it is necessary to deal with the nuisance.

It is obviously not possible to eliminate the breeding places, as in the case of the house fly, and it is not practicable to kill flies swarming over the roofs and garden. We must content ourselves with killing as many as possible in the autumn and winter.

When the flies were discovered in their torpid state, they could be picked up in a vacuum cleaner and burned. In a livelier state they had first to be knocked down by an insecticidal spray. Usually several buckets of flies required removal. To prevent a recurrence, the whole surface of the roof space, including the floor area, was sprayed or painted with a five per cent. solution of D.D.T. in kerosene, using one pint per 100 square feet. This rendered the surface lethal to flies alighting thereon, the effect lasting for several weeks.

D.D.T. or Gammexane smoke generators were also effective, and a more easily applied form of treatment for use by householders.

In the first few cases of infestation reported to the department, help was given in clearing out the flies, a small charge being made for time and materials used. This eventually became impracticable, however, on account of the number involved, and householders were given advice on the lines stated.

They were advised also to clean out the cold water supply cistern, flies having gained access through inadequate covers in several instances.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Eleven visits were made in connection with the eradication of bed bugs and six houses were disinfested with D.D.T. solution. The work of disinfestation was supervised by the District Sanitary Inspectors.

HOUSING.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1)	(*a*)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,470
	(*b*)	Total number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2,782
(2)	(*a*)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	335
	(*b*)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	422
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	44
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	291

Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its officers	201

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(1)		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:— ...	
	(*a*)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
	(*b*)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:—	
		(i) By owners	Nil
		(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(2)		Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—	
	(*a*)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	35
	(*b*)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:—	
		(i) By owners	17
		(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	2

(3) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(*a*) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 5

NOTE:—In 4 cases undertakings were given by the respective owners not to use the premises for human habitation until rendered fit to the satisfaction of the Council.

(*b*) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... Nil

(*c*) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit following undertakings given after service of a Time and Place Notice—Section II ... ... Nil

New Houses.

During the year, eighty-four new houses were erected by the Council and twenty by private enterprise.

Requisitioned Properties.

Five properties were requisitioned and converted to accommodate eleven family units.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Two hundred and twenty-six dwelling houses were connected to the water mains during the year.

Extensions to existing mains were made in the parishes of Maresfield and Hartfield.

Monthly samples of water were taken for bacteriological and chemical examination from the mains supplies of all companies which operate in the district, viz:—

The Borough of Royal Tunbridge Wells.
The Crowborough District Water Company.
The East Grinstead Gas and Water Company.
The East Surrey Water Company.
The Uckfield Rural District Council.

All these supplies are chlorinated and are adequate in amount.

Surveys were made in the following areas:—

Framfield (Framfield Village, Halland and Blackboys),
Framfield (Riverside, Pounsley),
Hadlow Down (Mayfield Flat),
Nutley (Yew Tree Farm).

A "public health need" was established in each case and negotiations are in progress for the provision of water mains to serve these areas.

Forty-three samples of water were taken for analysis from wells and springs supplying private dwelling houses, and the Public Analyst reported that thirty-two of these were unsatisfactory. In twenty-two cases the owners concerned have arranged to carry out the necessary improvements. In the remaining ten cases no action has been taken as the samples were taken during the water surveys previously mentioned.

Position with regard to Piped Water Supply.

Parish	*No. of separate dwellings having main water supply*	*Estimated Population*	*No. of separate dwellings having standpipes*	*Actual Population*
Buxted	500	1,645	1	4
Crowborough ...	2,025	6,662	—	—
Danehill	—	—	—	—
Fletching	20	66	—	—
Forest Row ...	719	2,365	—	—
Framfield	20	66	—	—
Frant	252	829	10	27
Hadlow Down ...	175	575	2	8
Hartfield	412	1,355	—	—
Isfield	110	362	4	12
Little Horsted ...	12	39	—	—
Maresfield	545	1,793	—	—
Mayfield	794	2,612	—	—
Rotherfield ...	712	2,342	—	—
Uckfield	1,032	3,395	—	—
Wadhurst	1,016	3,343	—	—
Withyham ...	696	2,290	17	47
Totals	9,040	29,739	34	98

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Extensions to the sewers have been made in Crowborough, Jarvis Brook and Wadhurst.

Suggested sewerage schemes, affecting Mayfield (Five Ashes), Nutley Village and Fairwarp, have been considered and await implementation when circumstances permit.

SALVAGE.

The scheme for the collection of salvage in the district has been carried out successfully during the year, and the Surveyor to the Council has supplied the following interesting record of the materials gathered and sold.

Salvage — Sale of Materials for the year ending 31st December, 1947.

	Tons.	*Cwt.*	*Lbs.*	£	s.	d.
Aluminium		13	39	30	5	4
Bones	7	12	55	51	6	10
Bottles (Mixed)	36	13	46	282	14	11
Bottles (Sauce) (952½ dozen) ...				23	16	3
Brass		18	46	41	14	0
Cinders		14	0	1	2	6
Copper		7	111	17	19	4
Cullett	155	0	0	155	0	0
Flock			94		1	8
Feathers		1	36	3	1	8
Gramophone Records		3	3	1	4	5
Iron	5	9	7	12	8	10
Jars (2,743½ dozen)				80	3	5
Metal			36		9	0
Paper	304	11	25	2,123	4	3
Pewter			20	2	0	0
Rags	27	17	98	635	5	11
Rubber	1	16	48	4	2	4
Syphons (1 dozen)					5	0
String		12	69	4	18	9
Stoppers (46 dozen)					11	6
Spelter			26		3	9
Tyres (1 load)				2	5	0
Zinc	1	14	0	1	4	7
				£3,475	9	3